Matarau School Newsletter Term 3 Week 3

School Office

The office staff would like to sincerely thank you for keeping the school informed of matters this week and for deferring less important matters to next week. We hope to have the office up and running again next week. Your thoughtfulness has been appreciated.

Thanks

- ... to those who supported our zone cross country team this week
- ... to those who have put their names forward for the forthcoming BoT elections
- ... to those room 2,3 and 7 parents who attended interviews this week

Longer ... Long Weekend

This is early notice that the Labour Weekend break will be a bit longer than usual for our students. As advised, Calf Club will be held on Thursday 20 October (toward the end of the first week of term 4) and school will also be closed on Friday 21 October for a staff development day, and then of course on Labour day - 24 October. Some people may wish to plan a slighter longer family holiday in light of this.

Covid Update

Important message to the parents of children in rooms 1 to 4

We promised to advise you of any emerging covid patterns.

It appears that a growing number of children in our junior school are contracting covid, or have members of their family with covid. The numbers are small at present, but we might reasonably expect to see exponential growth in the coming days or weeks. It also appears that some children did not have obvious symptoms, at least initially.

We are asking parents to please ...

- ... take action if their child appears unwell, which includes keeping them from school for at least 48 hours after abatement of symptoms
- ... do a RATS test if necessary (we have test kits at school if you need one)
- ... let our school office know if your child tests positive or if you are in isolation

You have been hugely supportive of measures in the past, measures which have enabled us to have more "regular" school days than most other schools. If we all remain vigilant we hope to keep school running as normally as possible ... we need your help to do this.

If we can help in any way, please let us know.

Term calendar ... More to follow as dates come to hand!

16 August ICAS English exam

20 August Quiz Night

23 August School Cross Country 30 August ICAS Maths exam

Final day of school 2022

... will be Thursday 15 December.

Board election dates (Please note that the dates have changed)

17 August Voting papers issued

14 September Election closes (4:00 pm)

19 September Final day for postal votes

20 September Results announced

21 September New Board takes office



School cross Country

We can now confirm the date of **23** August for the school cross country. Practices are underway at school and so please ensure that children (especially years 4 and up) bring footwear suited to road running (Tudehope Rd) and maybe a change of clothes. More to follow.

Whittaker's Chocolates

Thank you to all that have sold and paid for chocolates already - what an outstanding effort! Few reminders, please return chocolates to school asap. Please remember when <u>paying online</u> it's NOT the school bank account, check the envelope that was with your order for the <u>Parent Support Group Kiwibank account number 38-9022-0571286-00</u>. Any queries please contact the PSG via FB or email <u>matarau.psq@gmail.com</u>

Matarau School Aquabot teams need your help!

To help us create an obstacle course to practice for the upcoming Northland Aquabot Champs, we are wondering if anyone has any old lengths of PVC pipe they could donate to us. Ideally around 40mm but anything is appreciated. Many thanks:)

Year 7 and 8 Technology Fees

We are required to levy a technology fee to all year 7 and 8 students to cover the cost of materials, and as a contribution to the cost of maintenance and replacement of equipment. Payments requests will be sent home very soon. We then pay these directly to the Hukerenui Technology Centre on your behalf.

International Schools English and Maths Exams

Practice papers are now circulating for both the English and Maths Exams, and can be swapped at the school office. Please help to ensure children have a set time and place to do these papers. Children are encouraged to do a minimum of two practice papers a week please.

Exams are scheduled as follows ... English - 16 August ... Mathematics - 30 August

Calf Club Day A reminder this is scheduled for Thursday 20 October.

You might want to start thinking if your child wants to bring an animal to Calf Club Day. Soon we will email you a permission form where you can indicate if you are taking an animal to Calf Club Day. Please, be aware that Calf Club Day is in the first week after the holidays.

Change of Clothes

Due to current weather conditions we suggest that students (especially younger students) have a spare change of clothes in their bag for wet weather accidents. Remember, this set of clothes could also be used for cross country practice runs which are being held most days. Thank you.

Wellness for school

Remember please ... cough, runny nose, fever, headaches etc ... please keep your child at home and not return them to school for 48 hours after cessation of last symptom. Any doubts please consult your child's GP. Remember to have a care plan in place in case we request pick up from school.

2023 Enrolments

We know this might seem early, but very soon the Board of Trustees will set the number of out of zone enrolments for 2023. Our goal is to keep numbers at, or below, nationally recommended staffing levels. Early information on which children will, or will not, be with us in 2023 is very helpful in achieving optimal class numbers, and also gives us an indication of how many places to advertise for out of zone families.

We also receive regular out of zone enquiries, and need to be in a position, very soon, to advise if places are likely to become available by a departing child.

SO ... this message is for those who already know that their children will not be with us, or are unlikely to be with us, in 2023. This message is not for those who are undecided, and need further time due to uncertainty. So, if you DO KNOW that your child WILL NOT, OR VERY LIKELY WILL NOT attend Matarau School in 2023, can you please advise the school office as soon as possible, by phone message over the weekend or on Monday, or drop by to chat with Kevin. Thank you for your assistance.

Sibling 2023 Enrolments

If you live in zone, or currently have a child enrolled at Matarau school, and have another child who will start in 2023, and you have not already done so, please advise the school office as soon as possible by leaving a message on the answer machine - 433 5823.

If you live out of zone, we would also like to hear if you have siblings you would like to enrol - although the board has yet to determine how many out of zone places might be available - so no quarantees here.

Yummy stickers

Keep collecting Yummy stickers! Please collect the Yummy cut-out labels from bags (each cut-out label is worth 10 stickers) and individual Yummy apple stickers for our share of the \$200,000 free DG Sport sports gear prize pool. Yummy apples are available from New World, PAK'nSAVE and participating Four Square stores (and some Countdowns). The more you collect, the more sports gear we get. Please see Mrs Easterbrook in room 2 for more sticker/label sheets.



All started or completed sheets must be returned to me before the end of term 3.

Confirmation of Secondary School

Parents of year 8 children have received a form asking for an indication of which secondary school their child is likely to attend in 2023. If you have not yet done so, please return this form to school asap.

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Player of the day Netball

Basketball

Minis = Eli *G*Crushers = Lauren P

Magics = Cian

Warriors = Tyler

Mayericks = Malachi



Clean sweep for Matarau on Wednesday evening with all 5 teams taking a win for the 1st round of the term. Awesome start.

Netball:

Weka's - Celeste Walker Tui's - Lauren Postlewaight

Have a nice weekend.

Ngā Mihi

Kevin Trewhella Principal



